

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0034] under the heading “BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES,” on page 9, lines 3-6, with the following paragraph:

**[0034]** Figure 1A-J show schematically illustrated macromers of the present invention where \_\_\_\_ is a water soluble core such as PEG; ~~~ is a hydrolyzably degradable extension such as a polyglycolide; === is a polymerizable end cap or side chain such as an acrylate; and --- is a water-soluble and hydrolyzable portion such as a hyaluronate.

Please replace paragraph [0043] on page 10, lines 2-5, with the following paragraph:

**[0043]** Figures 8 is a graph of the number of cells versus gel composition, for the unattached cells obtained from lavage of the peritoneal cavity in mice with different PEO overcoat gel compositions: a - 18.5k; b - 10% 0.5k, 90% 18.5k; c - 50% 18.5k, 50% 0.4k; d - 10% 0.4k, 90% 35k; e - 50% 0.4k, 50% 35k; and f -alginate-poly(L-lysine) control.